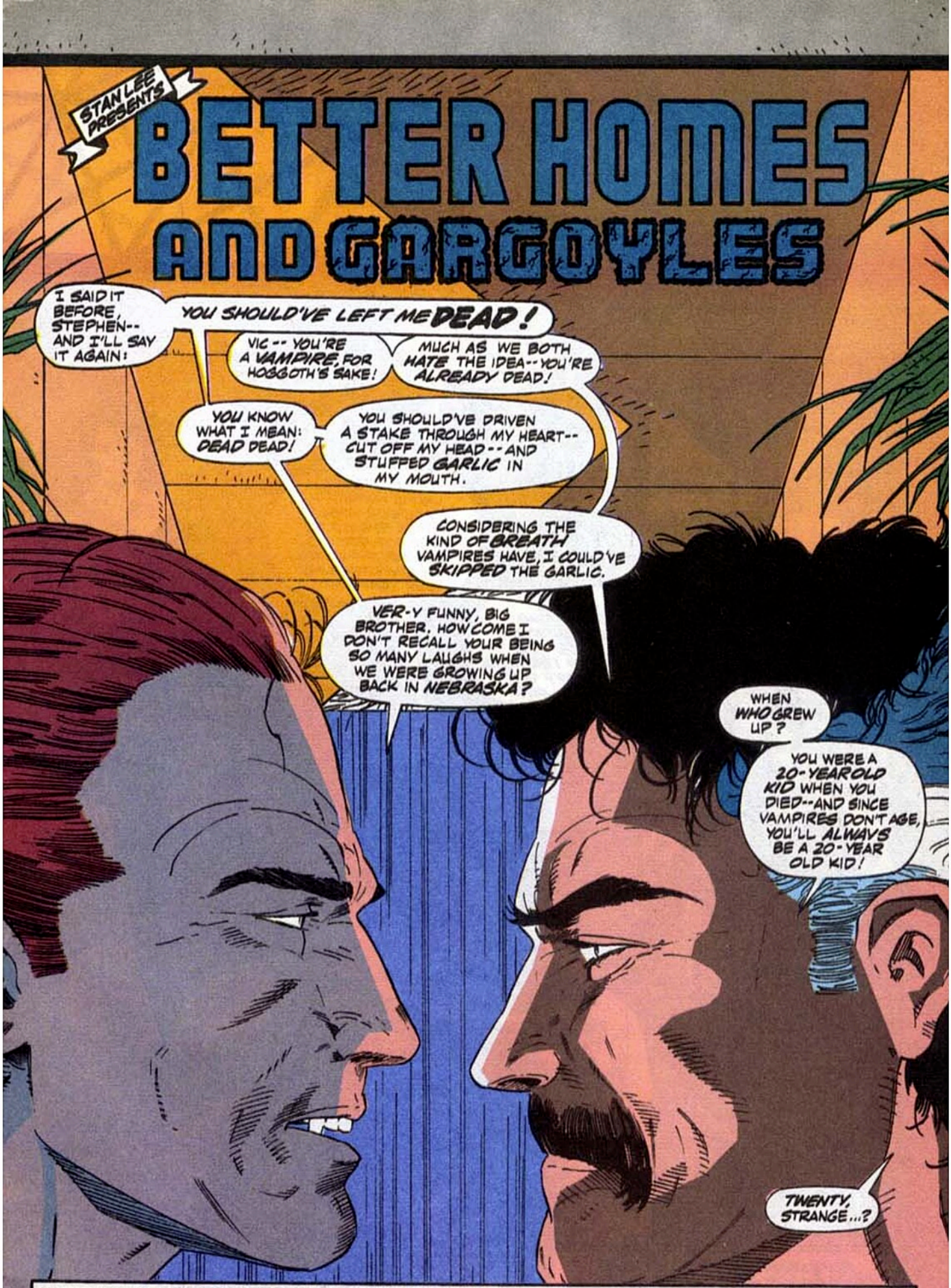
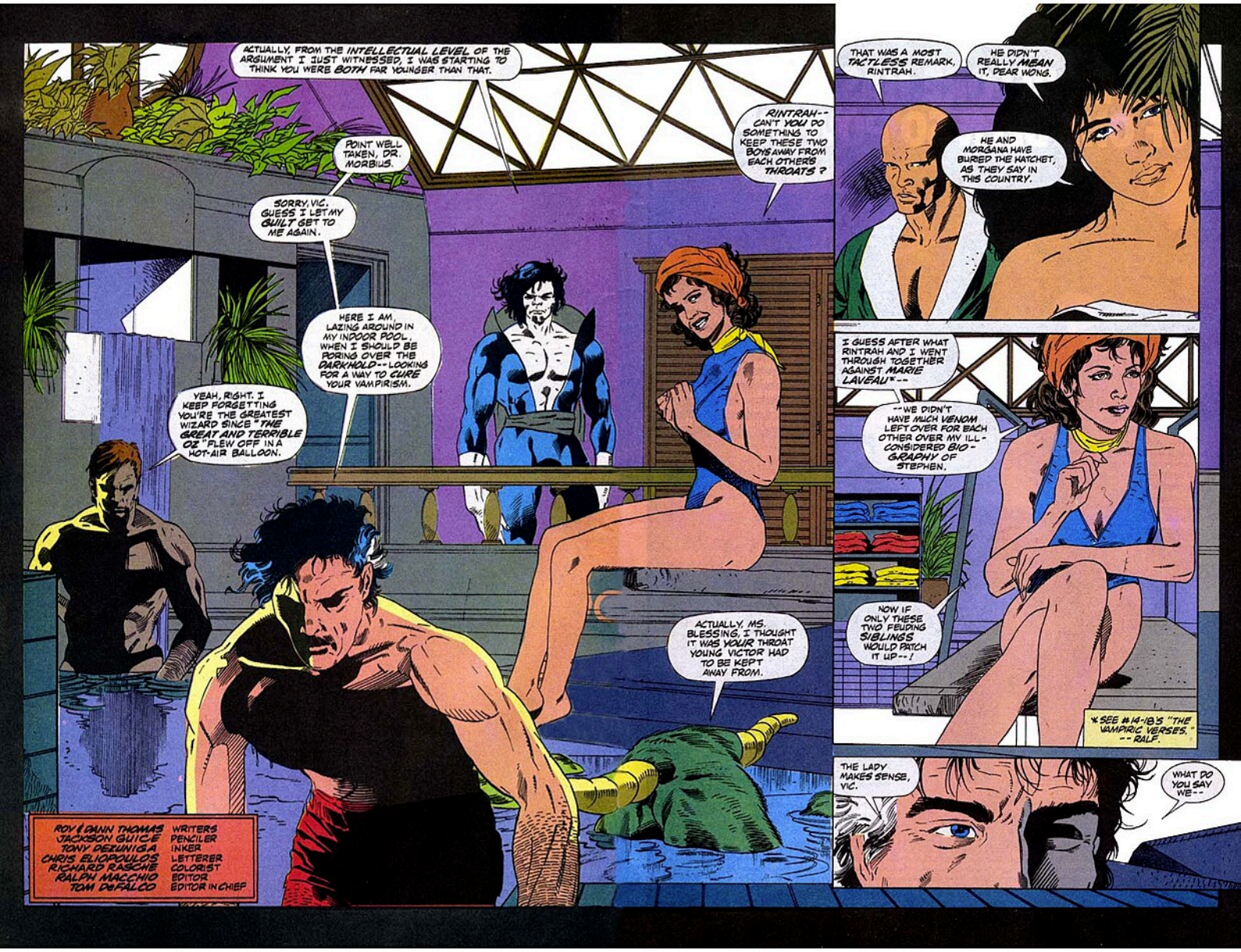
MARVEL COMICS
DR. STRANGE
SORCERER SUPREME
$1.50 US
$2.00 CAN
20
AUG
UK 60p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY
TOYS IN THE ATTIC!
JACKSON GUICE


STAN LEE PRESENTS
BETTER HOMES AND GARGOYLES
I SAID IT BEFORE, STEPHEN-- AND I'LL SAY IT AGAIN:
YOU SHOULD'VE LEFT ME DEAD!
VIC -- YOU'RE A VAMPIRE, FOR HOGGOTH'S SAKE!
MUCH AS WE BOTH HATE THE IDEA--YOU'RE ALREADY DEAD!
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN: DEAD DEAD!
YOU SHOULD'VE DRIVEN A STAKE THROUGH MY HEART-- CUT OFF MY HEAD -- AND STUFFED GARLIC IN MY MOUTH.
CONSIDERING THE KIND OF BREATH VAMPIRES HAVE, I COULD'VE SKIPPED THE GARLIC.
VER-Y FUNNY, BIG BROTHER. HOW COME I DON'T RECALL YOUR BEING SO MANY LAUGHS WHEN WE WERE GROWING UP BACK IN NEBRASKA?
WHEN WHO GREW UP?
YOU WERE A 20-YEAR OLD KID WHEN YOU DIED--AND SINCE VAMPIRES DON'T AGE, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A 20-YEAR OLD KID!
TWENTY, STRANGE...?

DOCTOR STRANGE®, SORCERER SUPREME™, Vol. 1, No. 20, August, 1990. (ISSN #1044-7172) Published by MARVEL COMICS, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.00 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $18.00; Canada $23.00; and foreign $30.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DOCTOR STRANGE and SORCERER SUPREME (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DOCTOR STRANGE, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 9TH FLOOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

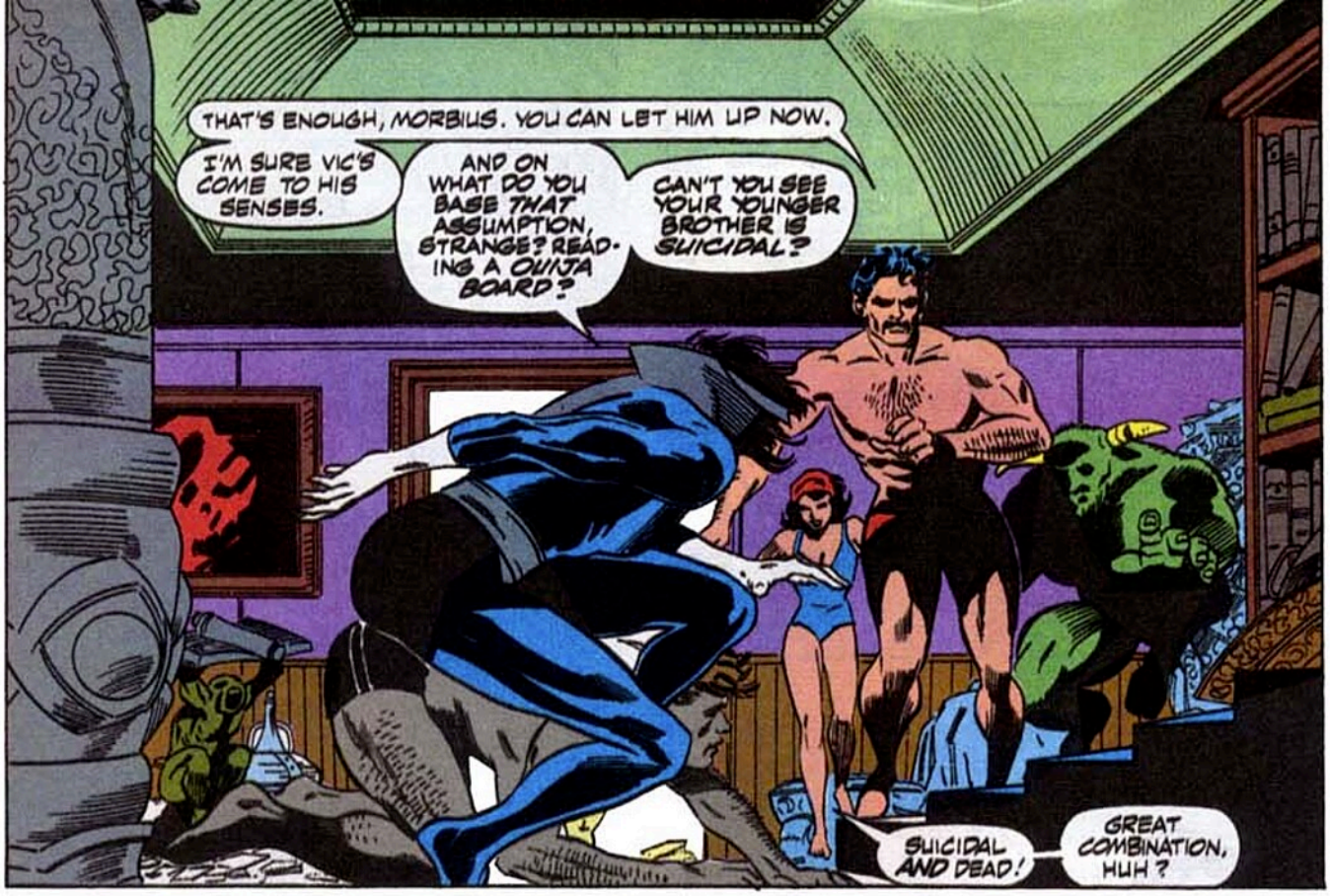
PRINTED in U.S.A.

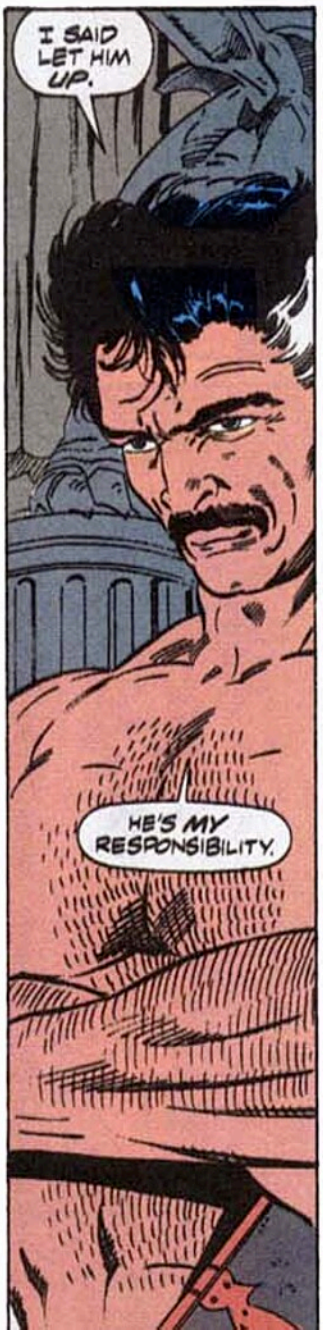

ACTUALLY, FROM THE INTELLECTUAL LEVEL OF THE ARGUMENT I JUST WITNESSED, I WAS STARTING TO THINK YOU WERE BOTH FAR YOUNGER THAN THAT.
RINTRAH--CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING TO KEEP THESE TWO BOYS AWAY FROM EACH OTHER'S THROATS ?
POINT WELL TAKEN, DR. MORBIUS.
SORRY, VIC. GUESS I LET MY GUILT GET TO ME AGAIN.
HERE I AM, LAZING AROUND IN MY INDOOR POOL, WHEN I SHOULD BE PORING OVER THE DARKHOLD--LOOKING FOR A WAY TO CURE YOUR VAMPIRISM.
YEAH, RIGHT. I KEEP FORGETTING YOU'RE THE GREATEST WIZARD SINCE "THE GREAT AND TERRIBLE OZ" FLEW OFF IN A HOT-AIR BALLOON.
ACTUALLY, MS. BLESSING, I THOUGHT IT WAS YOUR THROAT YOUNG VICTOR HAD TO BE KEPT AWAY FROM.
ROY & DANN THOMAS WRITERS
JACKSON GUICE PENCILER
TONY DEZUNIGA INKER
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS LETTERER
RICHARD RASCHKE COLORIST
RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR
TOM DeFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF
THAT WAS A MOST TACTLESS REMARK, RINTRAH.
HE DIDN'T REALLY MEAN IT, DEAR WONG.
HE AND MORGANA HAVE BURIED THE HATCHET, AS THEY SAY IN THIS COUNTRY.
I GUESS AFTER WHAT RINTRAH AND I WENT THROUGH TOGETHER AGAINST MARIE LAVEAU*--
--WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH VENOM LEFT OVER FOR EACH OTHER OVER MY ILL-CONSIDERED BIO-GRAPHY OF STEPHEN.
NOW IF ONLY THESE TWO FEUDING SIBLINGS WOULD PATCH IT UP--!
*SEE #14-18'S "THE VAMPIRIC VERSES." --RALF.
THE LADY MAKES SENSE, VIC.
WHAT DO YOU SAY WE--

STOP IT!
YOU AND MORGANA CAN'T KID ME OUT OF THIS!
IF YOU'RE GONNA KEEP STALLING ABOUT RECITING THE SPELL THAT'LL WIPE OUT ALL VAMPIRES AGAIN--
--THEN I'LL DO IT--
--FOR YOU!
HE'S BECOME A BAT AGAIN!
MASTER! HE IS GOING AFTER THE DARKHOLD!
STOP, VIC! YOU MAY BE A VAMPIRE-- BUT YOU'RE NO SORCERER.
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF YOU SOMEHOW MANAGED TO READ THE MONTES! FORMULA!

THEN WHAT DO YOU SAY WE FIND OUT?
AH, HERE'S YOUR PRECIOUS BOOK.
NOW LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN--
NO!
TINN
KLL
MORBIUS!? HOW COULD YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, STOP ME?
YOU'RE PRACTICALLY A VAMPIRE YOURSELF...
AND IF I'VE LIVED ALL THESE YEARS WITH MY AFFLICTION, VIC--

-- I KNOW YOU'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO BEAR YOUR OWN!
ER... DR. STRANGE...
... THERE'S SOME KIND OF...
SHHHHH...
IMEI?
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
I GUESS NOT...


THAT'S ENOUGH, MORBIUS. YOU CAN LET HIM UP NOW.
I'M SURE VIC'S COME TO HIS SENSES.
AND ON WHAT DO YOU BASE THAT ASSUMPTION, STRANGE? READING A OUIJA BOARD?
CAN'T YOU SEE YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER IS SUICIDAL?
SUICIDAL AND DEAD!
GREAT COMBINATION, HUH?


I SAID LET HIM UP.
HE'S MY RESPONSIBILITY.

PLEASE, VIC -- STEPHEN AND DR. MORBIUS ARE ONLY TRYING TO HELP.
SO YOU'RE ON THEIR SIDE, TOO, MORGANA?
OKAY. AT LEAST NOW I KNOW WHERE I STAND.

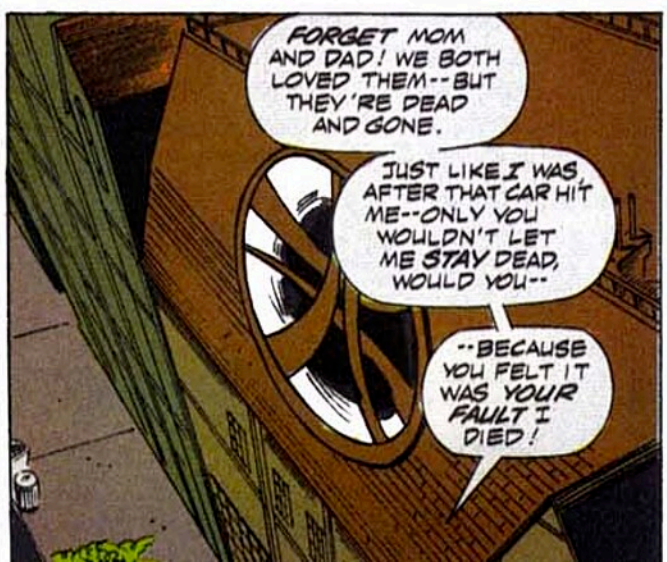
IMEI, YOU GAZE BEFORE YOU LIKE ONE MESMERIZED.
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
I... DON'T REMEMBER, WONG, BELOVED.
SO... I SUPPOSE THERE ISN'T.

THERE DEFINITELY IS SOMETHING WRONG -- BUT NOT WITH IMEI.
I OPENED THE DARKHOLD TO THE PLACE WHERE THE MONTES! FORMULA WAS INSCRIBED --
--AND THE ENTIRE PAGE -- IS BLANK!
WHAT?

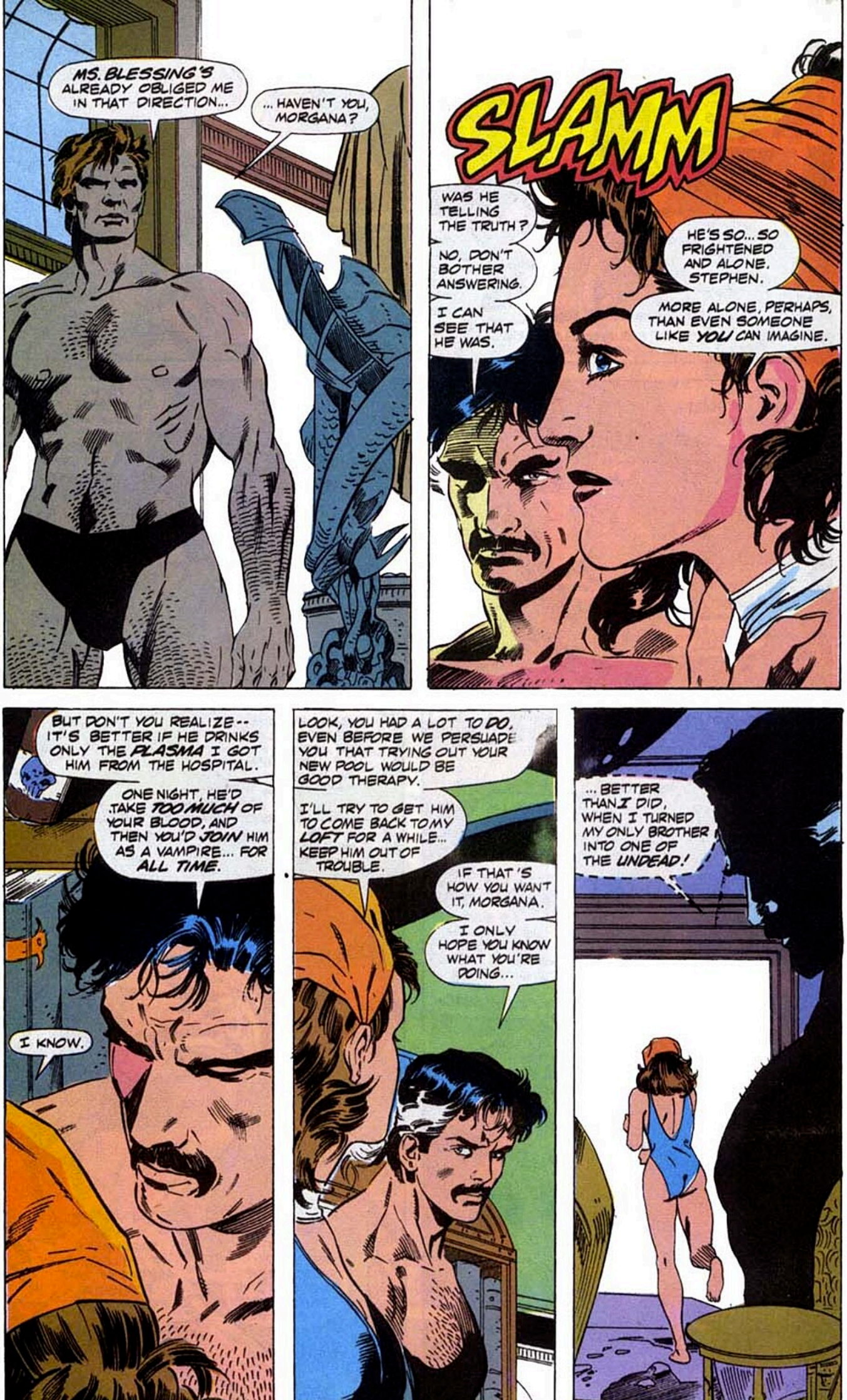
CLEARLY, THINGS GOT OUT OF SYNC WHEN I CALLED ON THE VISHANTI TO DESTROY THE PAGE IN THEIR BOOK THAT RECORDED THE VAMPIRIC VERSES.
WHEN THE VAMPIRE-CREATING SPELL VANISHED, SO DID THE ANTI-VAMPIRE ONE-- TO RETAIN SOME SORT OF COSMIC BALANCE.
WHICH MEANS--
FROM NOW ON, MANKIND IS ON ITS OWN WHEN IT COMES TO THE TRUE UNDEAD.
MAKING IT A MOOT POINT WHETHER YOU'D HAVE RISKED YOUR KID BROTHER'S EXISTENCE TO RID THE WORLD OF THEM A SECOND TIME.

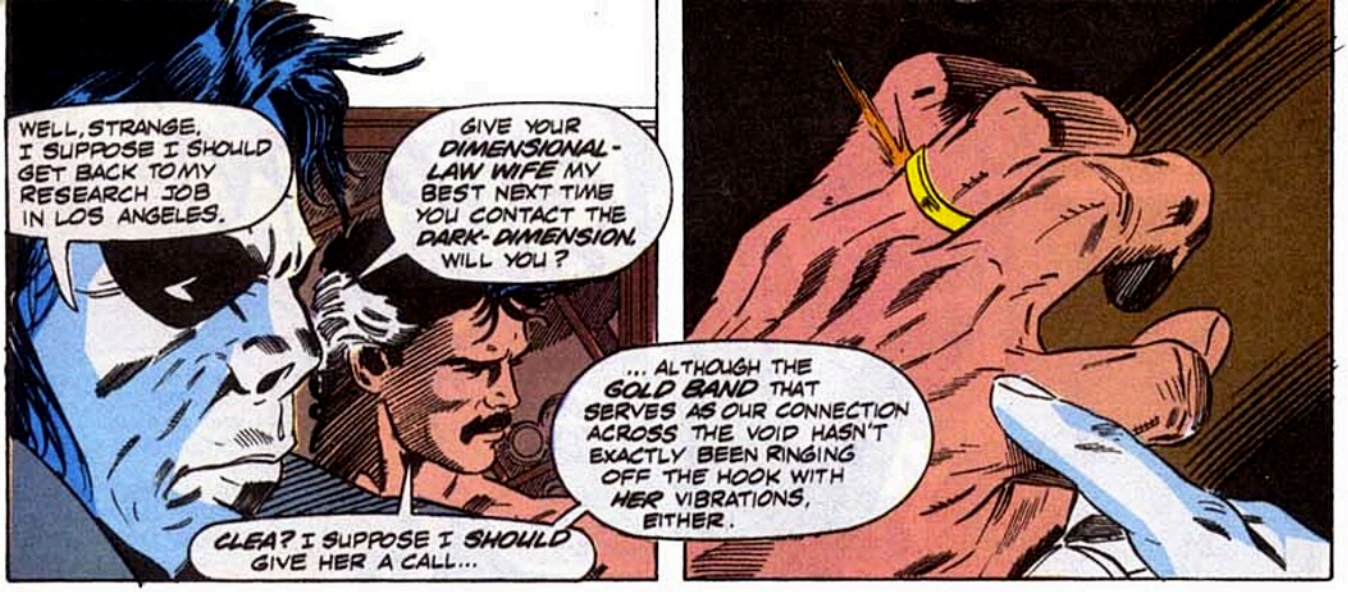
DON'T LISTEN TO DR. MORBIUS, VICTOR.
STEPHEN WOULD NEVER WILLINGLY LET YOU BE DESTROYED!
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?

THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M AFRAID OF!
VIC--I'LL FIND A WAY TO CURE YOU-- I SWEAR I WILL.
I OWE IT TO YOU-- TO MOM AND DAD--!


FORGET MOM AND DAD! WE BOTH LOVED THEM--BUT THEY'RE DEAD AND GONE.
JUST LIKE I WAS AFTER THAT CAR HIT ME--ONLY YOU WOULDN'T LET ME STAY DEAD, WOULD YOU--
--BECAUSE YOU FELT IT WAS YOUR FAULT I DIED!

EXCUSE ME. I'M GONNA GET DRESSED AND GO FOR A WALK-- SEE IF IT CLEARS MY HEAD.
VIC...
DON'T WORRY, STEVE.
I WON'T BITE ANYBODY WHILE I'M GONE.


MS. BLESSING'S ALREADY OBLIGED ME IN THAT DIRECTION...
... HAVEN'T YOU, MORGANA?
SLAMM
WAS HE TELLING THE TRUTH?
NO, DON'T BOTHER ANSWERING.
I CAN SEE THAT HE WAS.
HE'S SO... SO FRIGHTENED AND ALONE. STEPHEN.
MORE ALONE, PERHAPS, THAN EVEN SOMEONE LIKE YOU CAN IMAGINE.
BUT DON'T YOU REALIZE-- IT'S BETTER IF HE DRINKS ONLY THE PLASMA I GOT HIM FROM THE HOSPITAL.
ONE NIGHT, HE'D TAKE TOO MUCH OF YOUR BLOOD, AND THEN YOU'D JOIN HIM AS A VAMPIRE... FOR ALL TIME.
I KNOW.
LOOK, YOU HAD A LOT TO DO, EVEN BEFORE WE PERSUADE YOU THAT TRYING OUT YOUR NEW POOL WOULD BE GOOD THERAPY.
I'LL TRY TO GET HIM TO COME BACK TO MY LOFT FOR A WHILE... KEEP HIM OUT OF TROUBLE.
IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT, MORGANA.
I ONLY HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING...
... BETTER THAN I DID, WHEN I TURNED MY ONLY BROTHER INTO ONE OF THE UNDEAD!

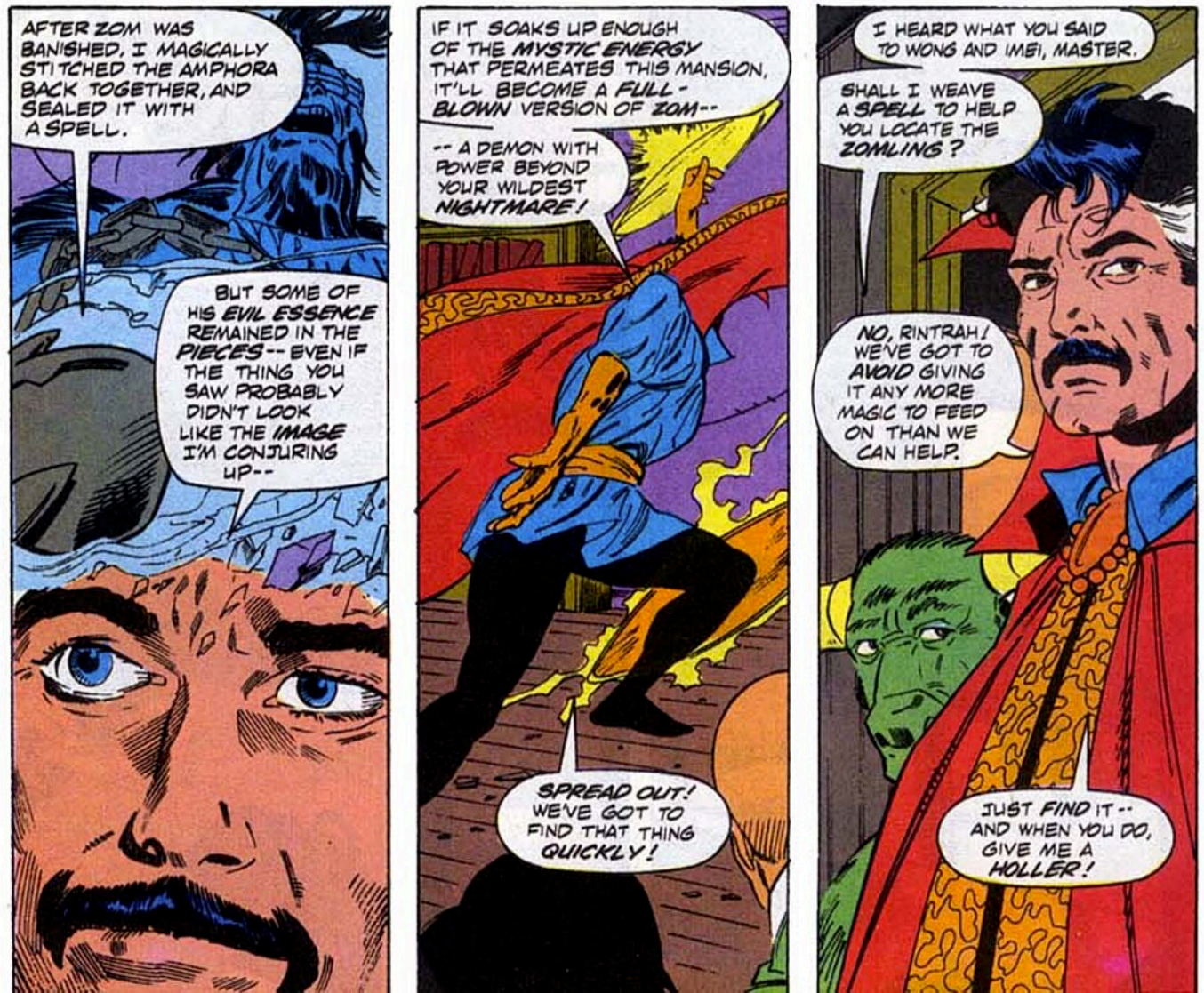

WELL, STRANGE, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GET BACK TO MY RESEARCH JOB IN LOS ANGELES.
GIVE YOUR DIMENSIONAL-LAW WIFE MY BEST NEXT TIME YOU CONTACT THE DARK-DIMENSION, WILL YOU?
CLEA? I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GIVE HER A CALL...
... ALTHOUGH THE GOLD BAND THAT SERVES AS OUR CONNECTION ACROSS THE VOID HASN'T EXACTLY BEEN RINGING OFF THE HOOK WITH HER VIBRATIONS, EITHER.

GOT ENOUGH BOTTLES OF BLOOD FOR THE ROAD, HAVE YOU?
SO WE'RE FINALLY ON A FIRST-NAME BASIS, EH?
GOODBYE... STEPHEN.
WELL, DON'T BE A STRANGER.
STAY WELL, MICHAEL.

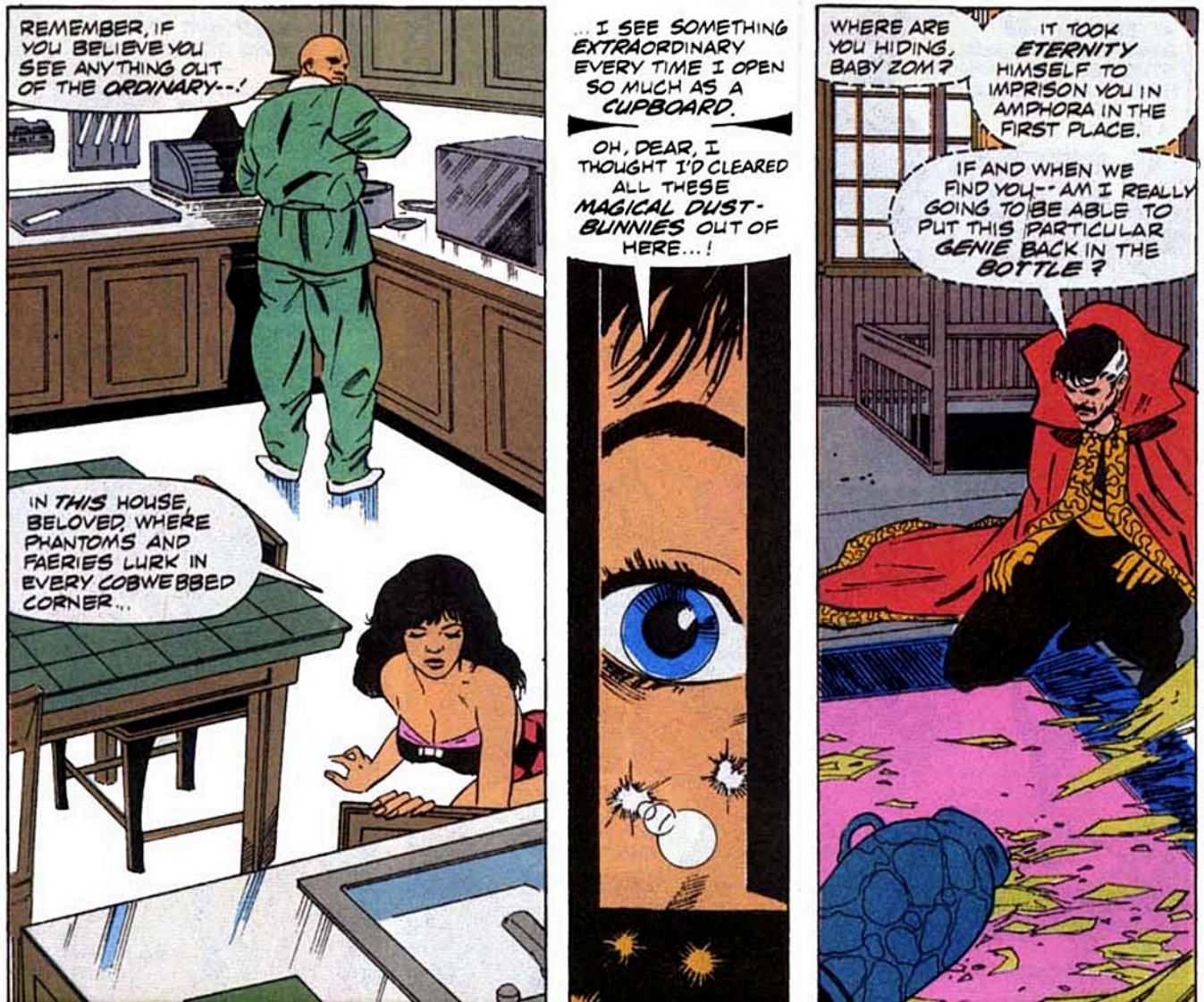
HE WAS RIGHT ABOUT CLEA, YOU KNOW, DOCTOR.
IME!...
WELL, HE WAS! YOU SHOULD TRY TO CONTACT HER.
ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN THINKING THE SAME THING.
AS SOON AS WE FINISH CLEANING UP THIS MESS, I THINK I'LL GIVE HER A BUZZ IN THE DARK DIMENSION.

SURELY, BY NOW, THE EFFECTS OF LAVEAU'S HATE ARROW WILL HAVE WORN OFF, SO MAYBE --
BY THE HOARY HOSTS OF HOGGOTH!
WHAT IS IT, MASTER?
I JUST REALIZED-- THESE VASE SHARDS I'VE BEEN SWEEPING UP--
THEY'RE FRAGMENTS OF THE LEGENDARY AMPHORA THAT FORMED A PRISON FOR-- ZOM!

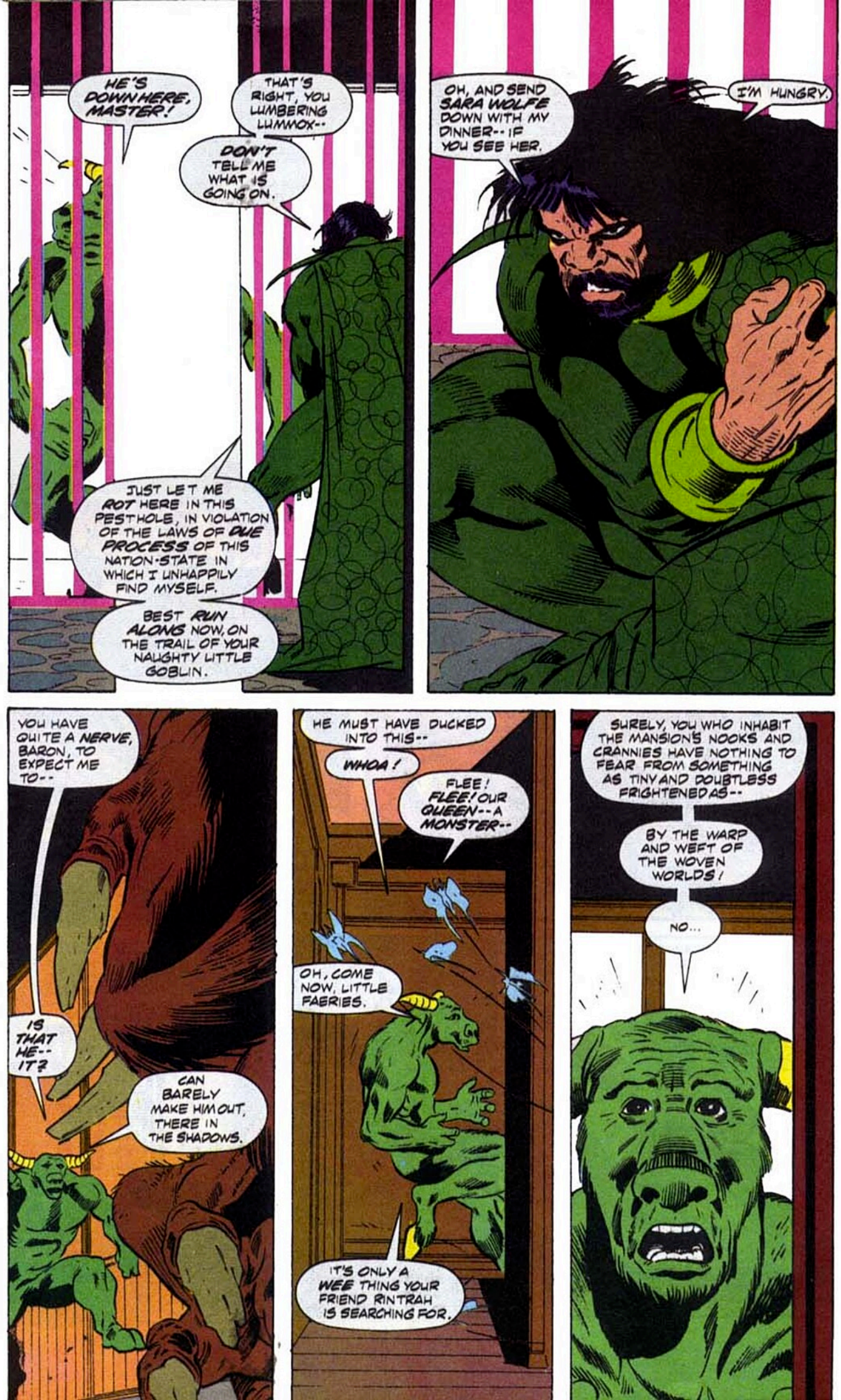
"ZOM," DOCTOR?
IS THAT ITS NAME?
IS THAT WHOSE NAME, IMEI?
WHY, THAT LITTLE CREATURE I SAW AFTER THAT VASE FELL AND BROKE.
IT WAS SO SMALL... A SHORT NAME SUITS IT, REALLY.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT THIS BEFORE?
I--I'M NOT SURE, ACTUALLY.
I COULD TELL IT DIDN'T WANT ME TO--AND IT SEEMED SO CUTE AND HELPLESS...
"HELPLESS"? ZOM WAS A 20-FOOT MONSTER, WHO WAS ONCE IMPRISONED IN THE AMPHORA!
HIS LAST ESCAPE SET OFF A CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT NEARLY LED TO THE EARTH BEING DESTROYED BY THE LIVING TRIBUNAL! *
* STRANGE TALES (FIRST SERIES) #156-158 -- LIVING TRIBUN-RALF


AFTER ZOM WAS BANISHED, I MAGICALLY STITCHED THE AMPHORA BACK TOGETHER, AND SEALED IT WITH A SPELL.
BUT SOME OF HIS EVIL ESSENCE REMAINED IN THE PIECES -- EVEN IF THE THING YOU SAW PROBABLY DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THE IMAGE I'M CONJURING UP--
IF IT SOAKS UP ENOUGH OF THE MYSTIC ENERGY THAT PERMEATES THIS MANSION, IT'LL BECOME A FULL-BLOWN VERSION OF ZOM--
-- A DEMON WITH POWER BEYOND YOUR WILDEST NIGHTMARE!
SPREAD OUT! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT THING QUICKLY!
I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID TO WONG AND IMEI, MASTER.
SHALL I WEAVE A SPELL TO HELP YOU LOCATE THE ZOMLING?
NO, RINTRAH! WE'VE GOT TO AVOID GIVING IT ANY MORE MAGIC TO FEED ON THAN WE CAN HELP.
JUST FIND IT -- AND WHEN YOU DO, GIVE ME A HOLLER!

WONG-- SINCE I CAN'T USE ANY MAGIC TO HELP ME HUNT, I NEED YOU TO SEARCH, AS WELL.
NO, INDEED, MASTER!
I SHALL PURSUE MY INVESTIGATIONS IN THE MANSION'S SUBTERRANEAN QUARTERS, DR. STRANGE...
BUT WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LET IMEI OUT OF YOUR SIGHT!
I ONLY WISH I KNEW PRECISELY WHAT WE ALL WERE LOOKING FOR!


REMEMBER, IF YOU BELIEVE YOU SEE ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY--!
IN THIS HOUSE, BELOVED, WHERE PHANTOMS AND FAERIES LURK IN EVERY COBWEBBED CORNER...
...I SEE SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY EVERY TIME I OPEN SO MUCH AS A CUPBOARD.
OH, DEAR, I THOUGHT I'D CLEARED ALL THESE MAGICAL DUST-BUNNIES OUT OF HERE...!
WHERE ARE YOU HIDING, BABY ZOM?
IT TOOK ETERNITY HIMSELF TO IMPRISON YOU IN AMPHORA IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IF AND WHEN WE FIND YOU-- AM I REALLY GOING TO BE ABLE TO PUT THIS PARTICULAR GENIE BACK IN THE BOTTLE?

STOP GNAWING AT MY BARS, YOU!
WHATEVER YOU ARE, YOU MINUSCULE MONSTER, YOU CAN HARDLY EXPECT TO BITE THROUGH RODS OF MYSTICAL ENERGY!
REET REET
YOU'LL MERELY ANGER STRANGE, AND HE'LL THINK ME RESPONS-IBLE.
AS IF, TO ESCAPE HIS MAGICAL CELL, BARON MORDO NEEDS THE HELP OF SOME PUNY, SUBHUMAN--
WHAT IN DORMAMMU'S NAME--?
RREEEEEEEE
YOU ARE NOT SO PUNY ANY LONGER, ARE YOU?
STRANGE! HELP ME!
MORDO...?
WHO DID YOU THINK IT WAS, FOOL?
IF YOU CANNOT PROTECT ME FROM THE VERMIN THAT CLEARLY INFEST THIS MANSION--
IT IS HE--
OR, RATHER, IT IS IT!
--I DEMAND THAT YOU SET ME FREE!
MASTER!


HE'S DOWN HERE, MASTER!
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU LUMBERING LUMMOX--
DON'T TELL ME WHAT IS GOING ON.
JUST LET ME ROT HERE IN THIS PESTHOLE, IN VIOLATION OF THE LAWS OF DUE PROCESS OF THIS NATION-STATE IN WHICH I UNHAPPILY FIND MYSELF.
BEST RUN ALONG NOW, ON THE TRAIL OF YOUR NAUGHTY LITTLE GOBLIN.
OH, AND SEND SARA WOLFE DOWN WITH MY DINNER-- IF YOU SEE HER.
I'M HUNGRY.
YOU HAVE QUITE A NERVE, BARON, TO EXPECT ME TO--
IS THAT HE-- IT?
CAN BARELY MAKE HIM OUT, THERE IN THE SHADOWS.
HE MUST HAVE DUCKED INTO THIS--
WHOA!
FLEE! FLEE! OUR QUEEN--A MONSTER--
OH, COME NOW, LITTLE FAERIES.
IT'S ONLY A WEE THING YOUR FRIEND RINTRAH IS SEARCHING FOR.
SURELY, YOU WHO INHABIT THE MANSION'S NOOKS AND CRANNIES HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM SOMETHING AS TINY AND DOUBTLESS FRIGHTENED AS--
BY THE WARP AND WEFT OF THE WOVEN WORLDS!
NO...

YOU COME IN, GREEN BULL-MAN.
YOU--ME--WE HAVE LITTLE BITE TO EAT, YES?
FAERIE MEAT TASTE MUCH GOOD, I BET!
L-LET GO OF OUR QUEEN, YOU GARGOYLE!

YOU HEARD THE LITTLE NIXIE, ZOMLING!
I AM NOT "ZOMLING," STUPID GREEN COW!
OH NO! IN MY SHOCK AT SEEING HOW LARGE YOU'VE GROWN-- I UNTHINKINGLY UNLEASHED A WEAVE-SPELL TO ENSNARE YOU!
I AM ZOM!
AND YOU EAT MAGIC, DON'T YOU? IT'S WHAT MAKES YOU GROW!

ZOM IS BIG AS YOU NOW!
ZOM IS BIGGER THAN YOU!
RRRR
WHOR
AND ZOM WILL--
BY THE TANGLED LOOM OF SOULS--!

WHAT YOU DO TO ZOM, STUPID GREEN COW?
TELL ZOM-- BEFORE HE--
I -- DID NOTHING, YOU LOATH-SOME--
HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH, ZOM...
I'M THE ONE WHO MADE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU WERE BEING PULLED INTO A KINGSIZE WIND TUNNEL--

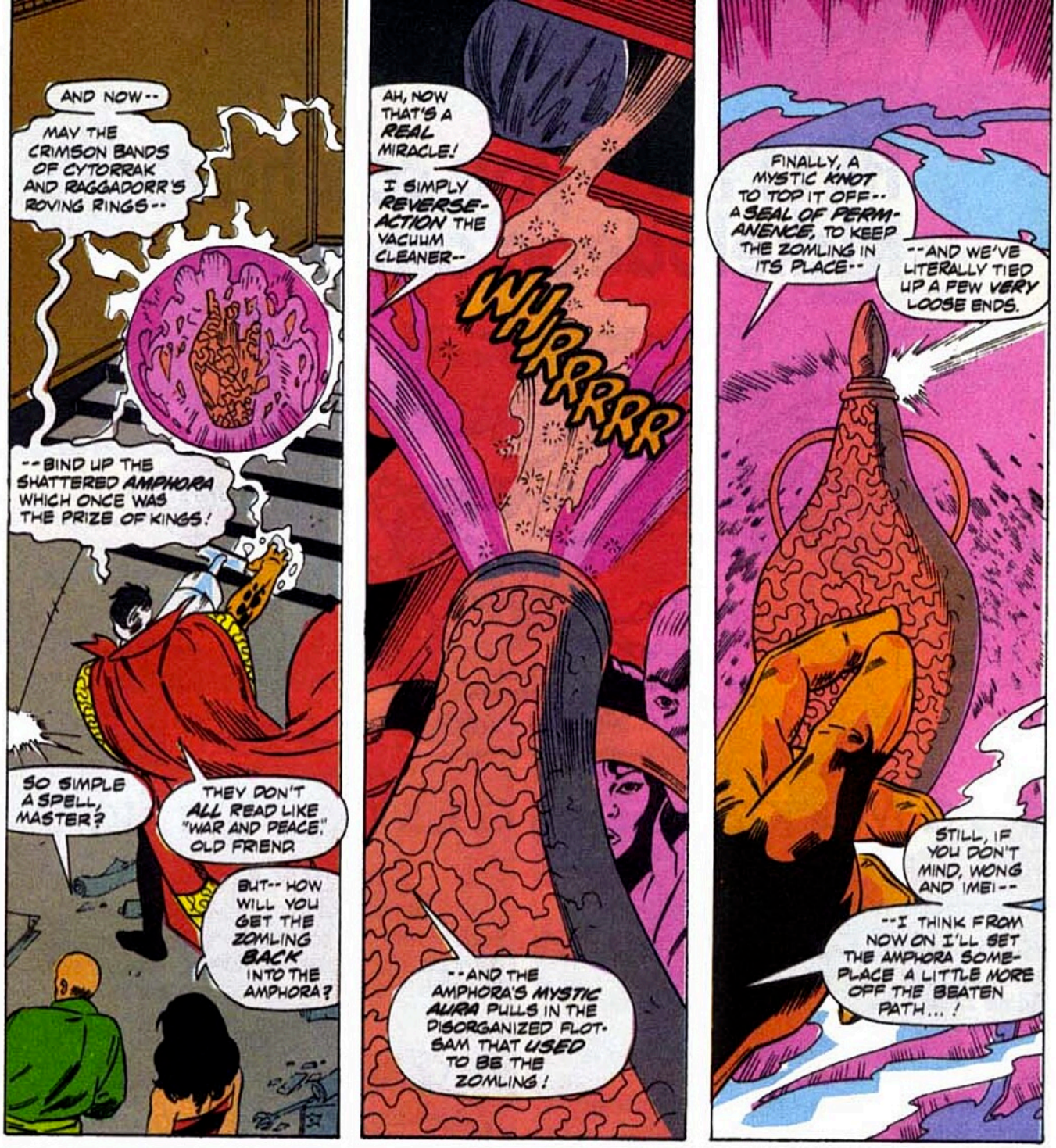
--WITH THIS!
WHHIRRRRRRRRRR
NO! YOU CANNOT DO THIS TO ZOM!
A FEW SECONDS MORE, AND I WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO STRONG TO--
NNNOOOOO
MASTER, HE--HE IS GONE.
ISN'T THAT WHAT WE WANTED?
YES, BUT HE HAD BECOME SO LARGE--SO MAGICALLY POWERFUL --
YET YOU ABSORBED HIM INTO THAT DEVICE THAT HUMANS CALL A--A--
A VACUUM CLEANER, RINTRAH.
I'M SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG TO GET HERE AFTER YOU CALLED, BUT I HAD FORGOTTEN WHERE WE STORED IT.

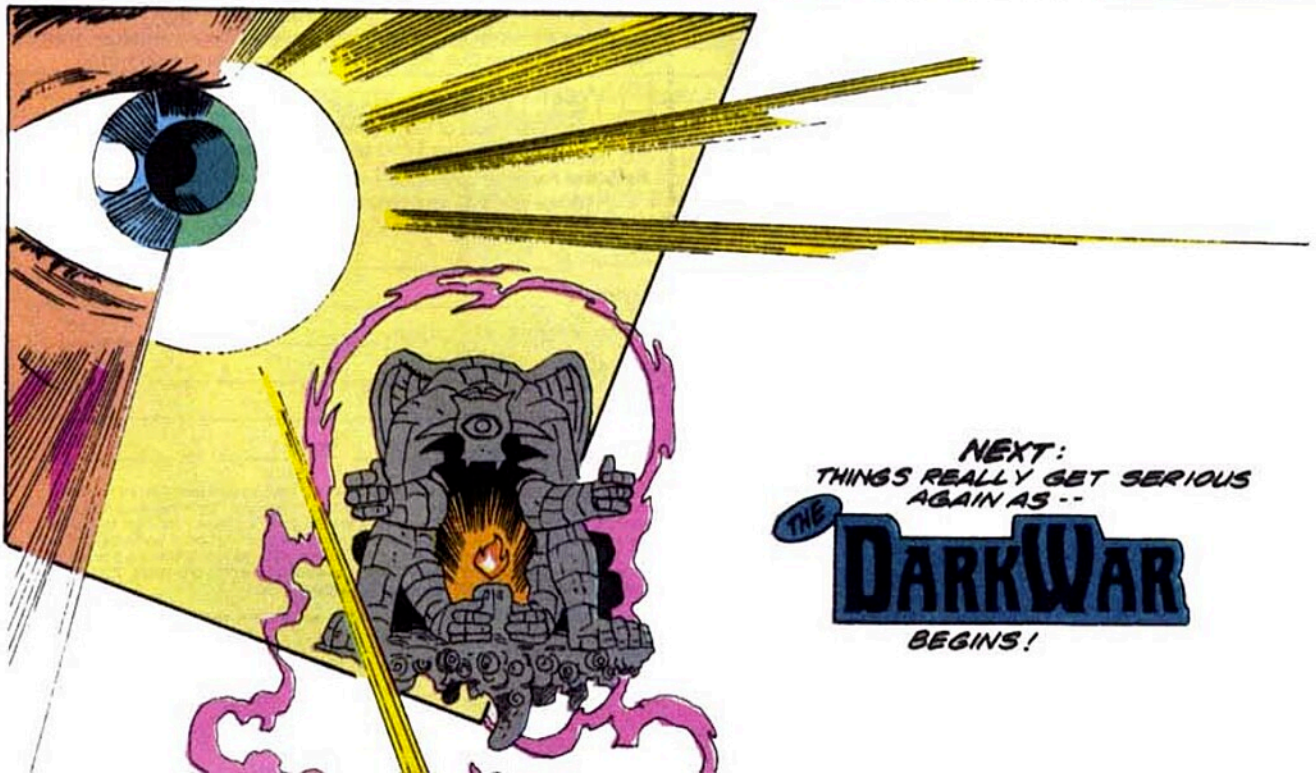
...THEN THIS ONE DIDN'T LOOK OR TALK LIKE THE ZOM YOU FOUGHT BEFORE, DOCTOR?
THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN ITS NEXT PHASE, IMEI-- A VERY DEADLY ONE.
AT FIRST, THE ZOMLING WAS COMPOSED OF PURE MAGIC. BUT WHEN IT DEVOURED MORE MAGIC, IT ALSO SWALLOWED DUST AND THE LIKE.
THE VACUUM PULLED IN THE DUST, AND THE ZOMLING HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE. IT--
BUT, MASTER, HOW COULD YOU DEFEAT IT WITH A MERE HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE?
RINTRAH, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
Y-YOU DID NOT KNOW, MASTER-- THE ZOMLING KILLED ONE WHO DWELT IN OUR SHADOWED CORNERS. IT--
NO, WAIT--

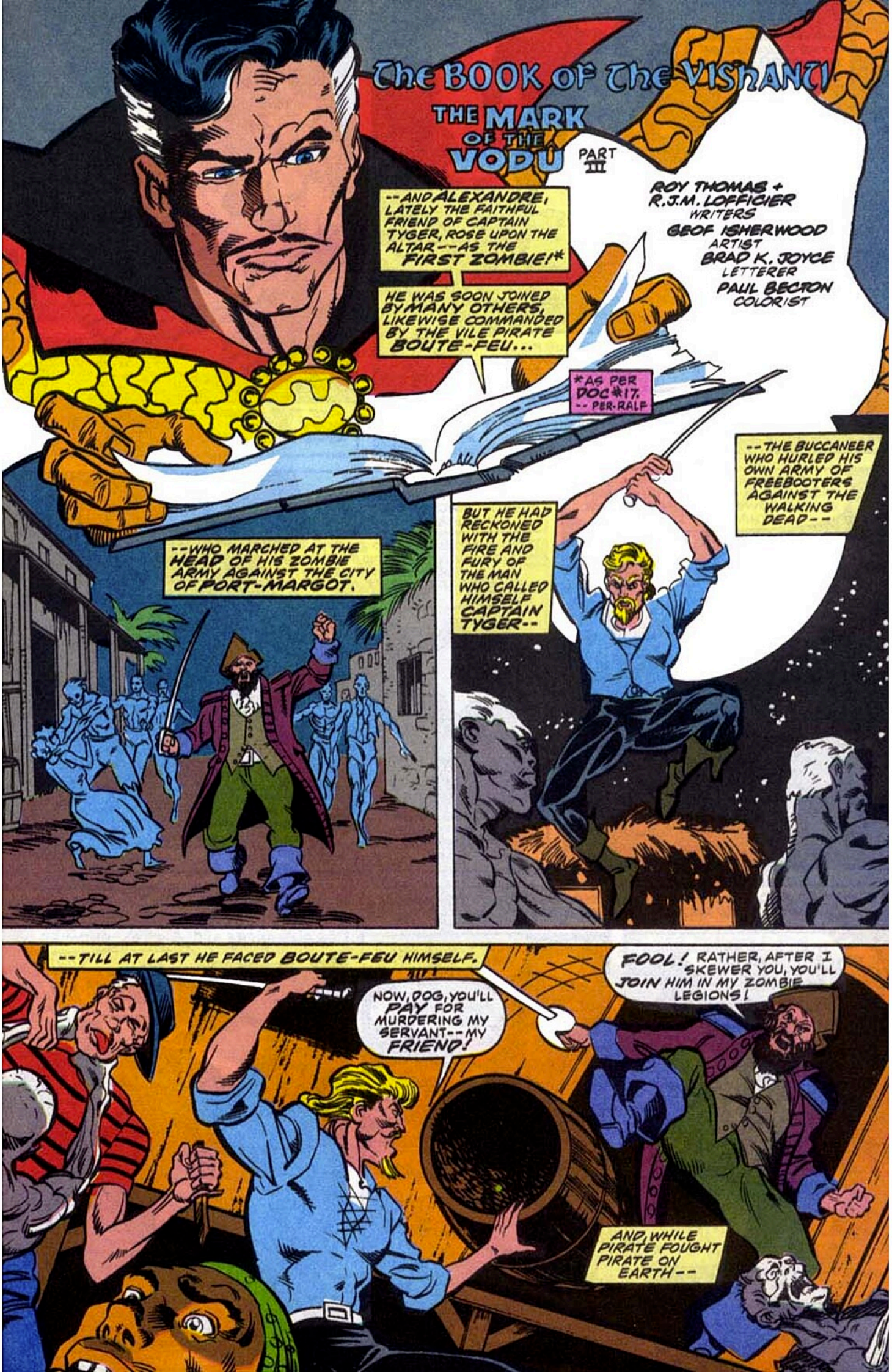
THE LITTLE FAERIE QUEEN LIVES!
OHHHH...

TAKE CARE OF HER, RINTRAH.
THE FAERIES DO MORE GOOD IN THIS WORLD THAN IT WILL EVER KNOW.

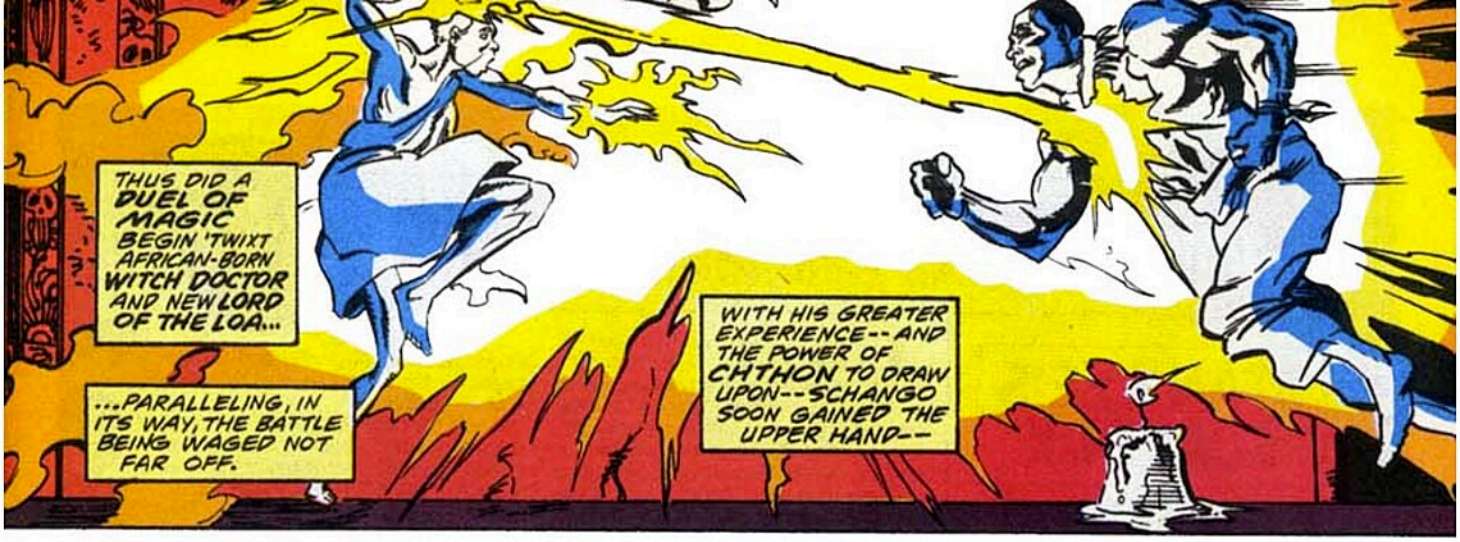
THEN THE DUST AND WASTE MATTER THE ZOMLING HAD ABSORBED WERE THE ONLY PARTS OF IT THAT WERE SOLID MATTER?
YES, IT WAS FAR MORE VULNERABLE THAN IT LOOKED, EVEN NEAR THE END--
--THOUGH SOON IT WOULD HAVE METAMORPHOSED INTO A TRUE ZOM, AND THAT WOULD'VE BEEN ANOTHER STORY.
A STORY WE HOPE IS NEVER TOLD, EH, YOUR MAJESTY?

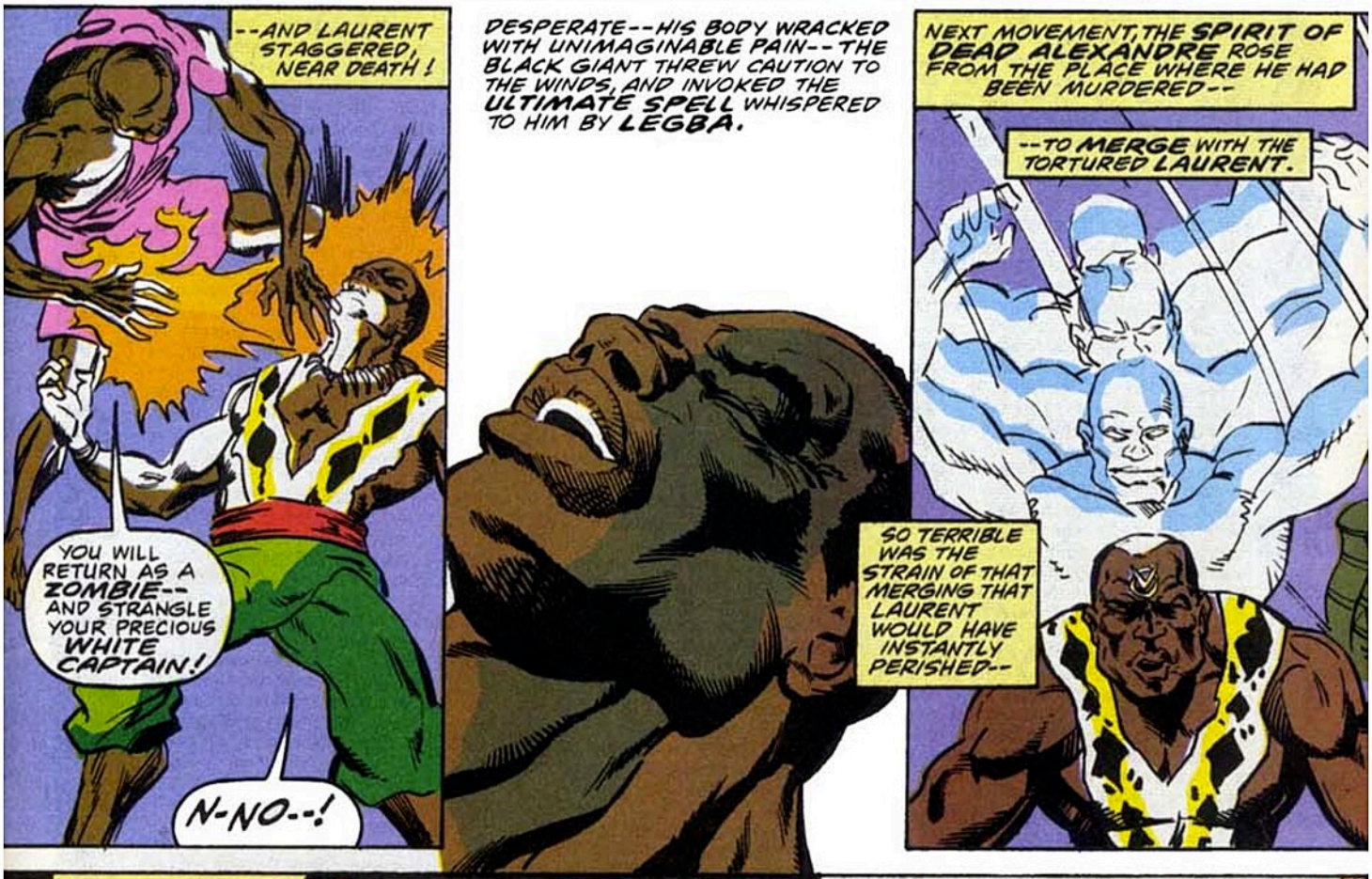

AND NOW--
MAY THE CRIMSON BANDS OF CYTORRAK AND RAGGADORR'S ROVING RINGS--
--BIND UP THE SHATTERED AMPHORA WHICH ONCE WAS THE PRIZE OF KINGS!
SO SIMPLE A SPELL, MASTER?
THEY DON'T ALL READ LIKE "WAR AND PEACE," OLD FRIEND.
BUT-- HOW WILL YOU GET THE ZOMLING BACK INTO THE AMPHORA?
AH, NOW THAT'S A REAL MIRACLE!
I SIMPLY REVERSE-ACTION THE VACUUM CLEANER--
WHIRRRRRR
--AND THE AMPHORA'S MYSTIC AURA PULLS IN THE DISORGANIZED FLOTSAM THAT USED TO BE THE ZOMLING!
FINALLY, A MYSTIC KNOT TO TOP IT OFF-- A SEAL OF PERMANENCE, TO KEEP THE ZOMLING IN ITS PLACE--
--AND WE'VE LITERALLY TIED UP A FEW VERY LOOSE ENDS.
STILL, IF YOU DON'T MIND, WONG AND IME!--
--I THINK FROM NOW ON I'LL SET THE AMPHORA SOMEPLACE A LITTLE MORE OFF THE BEATEN PATH...!


NEXT:
THINGS REALLY GET SERIOUS AGAIN AS--
THE DARK WAR
BEGINS!


The BOOK of The VISHANTI
THE MARK OF THE VODU
PART III
ROY THOMAS + R.J.M. LOFFICIER WRITERS
GEOF ISHERWOOD ARTIST
BRAD K. JOYCE LETTERER
PAUL BECTON COLORIST
--AND ALEXANDRE, LATELY THE FAITHFUL FRIEND OF CAPTAIN TYGER, ROSE UPON THE ALTAR--AS THE FIRST ZOMBIE!*
HE WAS SOON JOINED BY MANY OTHERS, LIKEWISE COMMANDED BY THE VILE PIRATE BOUTE-FEU...
*AS PER DOC #17. -- PER-RALF
--WHO MARCHED AT THE HEAD OF HIS ZOMBIE ARMY AGAINST THE CITY OF PORT-MARGOT.
--THE BUCCANEER WHO HURLED HIS OWN ARMY OF FREEBOOTERS AGAINST THE WALKING DEAD--
BUT HE HAD RECKONED WITH THE FIRE AND FURY OF THE MAN WHO CALLED HIMSELF CAPTAIN TYGER--
--TILL AT LAST HE FACED BOUTE-FEU HIMSELF.
NOW, DOG, YOU'LL PAY FOR MURDERING MY SERVANT--MY FRIEND!
FOOL! RATHER, AFTER I SKEWER YOU, YOU'LL JOIN HIM IN MY ZOMBIE LEGIONS!
AND, WHILE PIRATE FOUGHT PIRATE ON EARTH--

--THE COUNCIL OF THE VODÛ GATHERED IN THE SKY.
WE ARE ALL AGREED, THEN?
YES, GREAT LEGBA.
SINCE OUR FELLOW-GOD SAGBATA CREATED THE ZOMBIES FOR THE WITCH-DOCTOR SCHANGO--IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP MANKIND AGAINST THEM.
BUT, ALAS, IT DID NOT.
AND THE ASSEMBLED GODS SOON REASONED WHY.
SURELY, SAGBATA GOT HIS SPELL FROM THE ELDER GOD CHTHON--WHOSE POWER IS EVEN GREATER THAN OURS!
THEN WE MUST FIND A WAY TO HELP THE MORTALS HELP THEMSELVES!
LEGBA WAS MASTER OF THE LOA, THOSE ELEMENTAL SPIRITS WHO SERVED THE VODÛ.
DESCENDING TO EARTH, HE SNATCHED TYGER'S OTHER FREEMAN SERVANT, LAURENT, FROM THE FRAY--
EAGER TO RESCUE TYGER AND THE FREE-BOOTERS, LAURENT AGREED--
--AND OFFERED HIM POWER OVER THE LOA.
--AND SO BECAME THE FIRST MORTAL LORD OF THE LOA.
IF ALL ELSE FAILS AGAINST YONDER FIENDS, YOU CAN EMPLOY ONE ULTIMATE SPELL--
--BUT ONLY AT PERIL OF LOSING YOUR OWN SOUL!
THERE'S NOTHING I WOULD NOT DO TO AVENGE ALEXANDRE!
MEANWHILE, OLD SCHANGO WATCHED THE BATTLE BY MYSTICAL MEANS...
WHAT CARE I WHICH PIRATE KILLS THE OTHER?
I BUT USED THAT IDIOT BOUTE-FEU!
DEATH TO ALL WHITE MEN!
NO!
LIKE YOU, EVIL ONE, I WANT ALL OUR PEOPLE TO BE FREE, AS ALEXANDRE AND I HAVE BEEN...
...BUT NOT ALL WHITE MEN ARE OUR ENEMIES!
YOU WERE EVER THE BOOT-LICKER, LAURENT!
WHEN I FINISH WITH YOU, YOU WILL BEG TO LICK MINE!

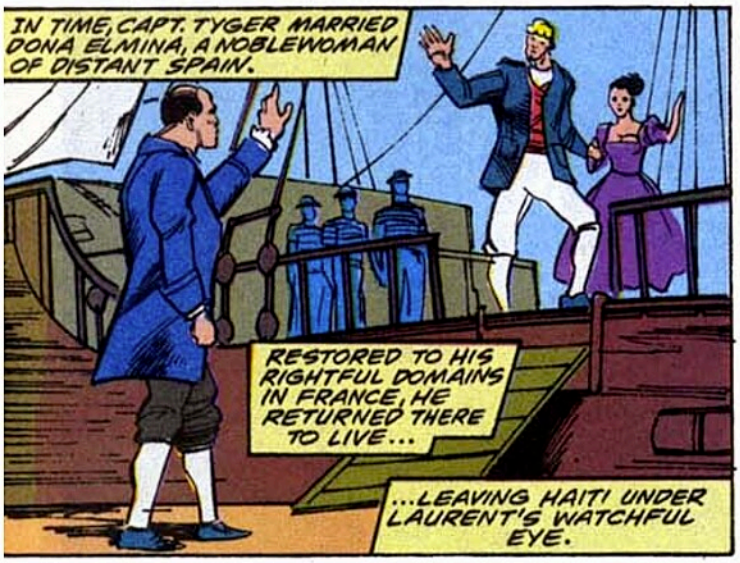

THUS DID A DUEL OF MAGIC BEGIN 'TWIXT AFRICAN-BORN WITCH DOCTOR AND NEW LORD OF THE LOA...
...PARALLELING, IN ITS WAY, THE BATTLE BEING WAGED NOT FAR OFF.
WITH HIS GREATER EXPERIENCE--AND THE POWER OF CHTHON TO DRAW UPON--SCHANGO SOON GAINED THE UPPER HAND--


--AND LAURENT STAGGERED, NEAR DEATH!
YOU WILL RETURN AS A ZOMBIE--AND STRANGLE YOUR PRECIOUS WHITE CAPTAIN!
N-NO--!
DESPERATE--HIS BODY WRACKED WITH UNIMAGINABLE PAIN--THE BLACK GIANT THREW CAUTION TO THE WINDS, AND INVOKED THE ULTIMATE SPELL WHISPERED TO HIM BY LEGBA.
NEXT MOVEMENT, THE SPIRIT OF DEAD ALEXANDRE ROSE FROM THE PLACE WHERE HE HAD BEEN MURDERED--
--TO MERGE WITH THE TORTURED LAURENT.
SO TERRIBLE WAS THE STRAIN OF THAT MERGING THAT LAURENT WOULD HAVE INSTANTLY PERISHED--

--IF ALEXANDRE HAD NOT BEEN HIS TWIN BROTHER.
FOR, NO MATTER HOW STRONG IT IS, NO HUMAN BODY CAN HOLD TWO SOULS--UNLESS THEY BE OF TWINS.
THE DOUBLED POWER ENABLED LAURENT TO METE OUT TO EVIL SCHANGO THE FATE HE HAD PLANNED FOR CAPTAIN TYGER--

--WHICH --WHILE, PORT-MARGO, A LEGION OF ZOMBIES CRUMBLED INTO INSENSATE DUST.
SO STARTLED WAS BOUTE-FEU BY THIS--
--THAT HE FELL AN EASY PREY TO TYGER'S FLASHING BLADE.
ARRR

--SAGBATA'S ZOMBIE SPELL WOULD ENDURE TO PLAGUE HAITI, AND THE EARTH, AS LONG AS DARK CHTHON HIMSELF.
YET, THOUGH TYGER AND THE LORD OF THE LOA HAD TRIUMPHED THIS DAY--
SOME SAY IT WAS GAEA, THE EARTH-GODDESS WHO HAS EVER BEEN CHTHON'S NEMESIS, WHO GAVE LEGBA HIS "ULTIMATE SPELL."
IN HIS OWN REALM, LORD LEGBA KEPT HIS SILENCE.


IN TIME, CAPT. TYGER MARRIED DONA ELMINA, A NOBLEWOMAN OF DISTANT SPAIN.
RESTORED TO HIS RIGHTFUL DOMAINS IN FRANCE, HE RETURNED THERE TO LIVE...
...LEAVING HAITI UNDER LAURENT'S WATCHFUL EYE.

TYGER'S GRANDSON TOOK PART IN THE LATER FRENCH REVOLUTION...
...WHICH WAS DESTINED TO ABOLISH SLAVERY IN HAITI IN 1793.

AS FOR LAURENT--HE WAS ONLY THE FIRST TO WEAR THE HEAVY MANTLE OF THE MORTAL LORD OF THE LOA.
HE BEGAN A LINE WHICH ENDURES UNTO THIS DAY, THROUGH PAPA JAMBO--
--AND THROUGH DANIEL DRUMM, AND HIS TWIN JERICHO, WHO SUCCEEDED HIM--
--SO THAT ALWAYS AND FOREVER THERE SHALL BE A-- BROTHER VOODOO!
FIN